

THE WAR.

Impending Revolution in Constantinople.

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE PORTE.

Turkish Preparation for the Russian Advance in Bulgaria.

THE CAMPAIGN IN ASIA.

Another Turkish Monitor Blown Up—Eupatoria Threatened.

GERMANY AND THE WAR.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

LONDON, May 27, 1877.

We are still without news of any decisive engagement in the East, and the principal operations of which any report has reached here have been some skirmishing near Sukum-Kaleh and in the neighborhood of Kara. The Russians are evidently advancing steadily on Erzeroum, and a great battle may be expected in that quarter before many days. The subject which causes most anxiety here is the threatened revolution in Constantinople.

THE COMING REVOLUTION IN CONSTANTINOPLE.

The crisis in Constantinople still continues, notwithstanding the proclamation of the state of siege and the other vigorous measures resorted to by the administration to quell incipient revolution. The people, rightly or wrongly, have made up their minds that Midhat Pacha is just the man to govern Turkey during her present struggle for existence, and the Turks have a short and very direct way of expressing their convictions. It is very probable that before long Turkey, in addition to fighting the Russian invader, will have an internal revolution, the immediate consequences of which no man can foresee. The Herald correspondent in Berlin telegraphs that the Sultan's declaration of a holy war will be equivalent to a *levy en masse*. The change in the Turkish Ministry, which is regarded as inevitable in consequence of the demonstration of the *soffas*, is likely to embrace the Grand Vizier and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, as well as the Minister of War. A despatch from Constantinople referring to the probability of the Sultan taking the supreme command of the army in the field says:—"The proclamation of a holy war looks like yielding to the popular demand, which has been growing louder daily, that the Sultan join the army. The proposal that the Sultan quit Constantinople has naturally raised the question whether it is safe to leave behind a Parliament which is becoming more and more difficult to manage, and which moreover has the whole population of Constantinople with it. It is no wonder, therefore, that Constantinople during the last few days has been filled with rumors of an impending dissolution, a *coup d'etat*, &c. It is felt even at the palace that Midhat Pacha's incapacity necessitates his recall; yet a fresh attempt of the Chamber in this case to directly influence the course of affairs may mature the Porte's resolution to check interference by prerogative at least."

FINANCIAL AID FOR THE PORTE.

The Herald correspondent in Vienna telegraphs that the French Consortium, headed by M. Frey, has offered the Porte a loan of 50,000,000 francs in consideration of the right to issue and circulate small coins from the produce of the Turkish mines. It has also offered a new loan of £2,000,000 sterling, which shall serve as a foundation for the new intended issue of 6,000,000 *conistols*.

A TURKISH MILITARY COUNCIL.

The task of directing the movements of such large masses of men as Turkey has now in the field is so arduous on men who have never had any experience of war on a large scale that the Porte recognizes the necessity of assisting the Minister of War by the creation of an advisory military body. A council has been established at the War Office to direct military operations. Minister of War Redif Pacha, or, in his absence, Raouf Pacha will preside. Among the members are Mohamed Reuchid, a former Grand Vizier; the Minister of Marine, Senator Uamuk Pacha; Halim Pacha, Said Pacha, aide-de-camp to the Sultan; Mahmoud Damad, Grand Master of the Artillery; Uzaf Pacha and other high officials.

TURKISH PREPARATIONS IN BULGARIA.

The Turks are straining every nerve to be fully prepared to resist the Russian advance into Bulgaria, and will in all probability make a desperate effort to hark back the tide of invasion. A despatch from Shumla, dated Thursday, says:—"A great concentration of troops has been effected here, and the number within the fortifications and camp is estimated as 60,000 infantry and 5,000 horsemen. The troops are held in constant readiness to march, but the generals do not expect to be called into action for another month. The elite of the Turkish officers are assembled here, and appear to be anxious for a speedy encounter with the enemy. A strong body has been sent forward to occupy the defile at Pravadi. The Varna and Rusek railway passes through the defile. The position is one of the greatest importance. The condition of the troops is satisfactory, and that of the fortifications and camp all that can be desired. Several thousand Cossack horsemen are now on their way here."

WRECKED CONDITION OF THE OTTOMAN ARMIES.

Reports of the bad condition of the Turkish armies in Asia have been current here for some time past, but no reliable information on the subject has as yet reached the public. There is a strong belief, however, in the correctness of these reports and a growing feeling that Russia must not be allowed to overwhelm the Turkish armies if a coalition of the Western Powers be not formed to arrest her progress. It is said that Sir Arnold Kimball, British military attaché, in his reports last received, gives a most deplorable account of the Turkish armies in Asia, which he represents as lacking everything an army should have, except courage and patience. Sir Arnold appears to anticipate that as things were and still are the Russian armies will not find any serious military resistance in Asia, and that the

only real difficulties they will have to encounter are those of the country and climate.

MOVEMENTS IN ASIA.

Intelligence has been received in Constantinople that the Russian bombardment of Kara has slackened. The Russians continue to advance on Erzeroum. A battle is expected shortly. The Russian right wing is at Olti and the left at Van. A Russian attempt to throw a bridge over the river before the Turkish lines at Batoum was repulsed with loss. Advice from Erzeroum report that the Russian bombardment of Karadagh and Takuz—forts and outworks of Kara—is now only carried on at intervals, the Turkish batteries replying. A despatch from Tiflis reports that the Russian headquarters train has proceeded to Alexandropol, whither the Generalissimo will follow in a few days.

FIGHTING NEAR SUKUM-KALEH.

A telegram from Constantinople says that a detachment of Russians, with two guns, on Tuesday attacked the Abchasian villages Akaba and Idlak, near Sukum-Kaleh. The Abchasian chiefs assembled all their available force and repulsed the Russians, who lost 150 killed and many wounded. A Russian major and four captains were found among the slain. The Turkish loss was seven killed and eleven wounded.

TODLEBEN AT SEBASTOPOL.

The Herald correspondent in Vienna telegraphs that the reports of a Tartar insurrection in the Crimea which have been recently circulated have turned out to be entirely without foundation. The famous General Todleben has arrived at Sebastopol to take command of the defenses.

THE Czar has ordered further extensive mobilization for the purpose of concentrating a strong reserve.

The alarm created on the Russian shores of the Black Sea by the operations of the Turkish fleet is evidently not subsiding. Intelligence from Eupatoria, coming by way of Moscow, announces that most of the families belonging to the wealthier class have fled to Simferopol and other towns in the interior. All shops are shut. The roadstead is deserted, all merchant ships having left. The smaller vessels have been sunk or hauled ashore. In the town there is a perceptible want of provisions.

ANOTHER TURKISH IRON-CLAD BLOWN UP.

A rumor is in circulation in Bucharest that the Russians blew up a large Turkish monitor on the Danube at three o'clock yesterday morning, by means of launches bearing torpedoes.

GERMANY AND THE WAR.

The Herald correspondent in Berlin telegraphs that Prince Bismarck, during his recent visit to that city, held conferences with the Ambassadors of England, Austria and Russia. The subject discussed at these interviews has not transpired, but it is supposed to have some connection with the war in the East.

THE GERMAN IRON-CLADS ARE TO SAIL ON MONDAY FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN, WITH SECRET ORDERS TO REMAIN AT THE DISPOSITION OF THE GERMAN AMBASSADOR AT CONSTANTINOPLE IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Subscriptions are being raised in Berlin for the wounded Russians, and large sums are coming in. The court and the highest aristocracy favor the collection. The Russian Cabinet desires to obtain the loan of the German military wagons for the transport of the wounded.

A DESPATCH FROM CONSTANTINOPLE SAYS THAT PRINCE HENRY VII. OF REUSS, GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO THE PORTE, HAS DELIVERED HIS CREDENTIALS.

PERIA AND TREKRY.

A despatch from Constantinople says:—"The Persian Minister has remitted a note to Nafiz Pacha repudiating warlike intentions. The Shah will maintain with the Porte a friendship befitting the two great Mohammedan nations."

WAR NOTES BY MAIL.

A special despatch to the New Free Press of Vienna, under date of Tiflis, May 13, says that on the 11th inst. the Forty-first division of Russian infantry, under the command of Lieutenant General Okoloboj, quitted their quarters at Logva and Juara and advanced along the right bank of the Tcheruk-Sou after a fierce fight with the Turks. The Turkish outposts retired to Zichedari, situated about a mile to the south of Tcheruk-Sou. The Russians lost 130 men. Among the wounded was the Count de Toulouse-Lautrec, major of dragoons.

Lieutenant General Okoloboj sent the following despatch to St. Petersburg:—"After having occupied the fortified position of Mankastan, I sent two detachments of skirmishers forward over the heights of Kustanobai, along with the little stream called Kuntchik. This position, very strong naturally and strengthened still more by fortifications recently constructed by the Turks, was taken by assault. All the detachments of my troops took part in this assault, and showed themselves worthy of their old renown as the Army of the Caucasus. The admirable conduct of the artillery contributed considerably to this success. It is to be regretted that the assault cost us twelve men killed, nine officers and 107 men wounded. The losses of the Turks were enormous."

MEXICO.

THE INAGURATION OF PORFIRIO DIAZ.

CITY OF MEXICO, May 22.

VIA BROWNVILLE, TEXAS, May 20, 1877.

Don Ramon Corona, the Mexican Minister at Madrid, having notified the Spanish government of the inauguration of General Porfirio Diaz as the constitutional President of the Republic of Mexico, the Secretary of State, in reply, sent a communication to the Mexican Minister stating that the instructions to be forwarded to Mr. Murruaga, the Spanish Minister in Mexico.

HOW AN AMERICAN CONSUL SAVED THE LIVES OF FOUR MEXICANS.

WASHINGTON, May 26, 1877.

Four Mexican refugees at Eagle Pass, Texas, have just been saved from death by a timely telegram. They had been demanded on a pretended warrant of extradition from the Mexican authorities, and the judge was about delivering them. Fortunately the American Consul on the opposite side of the river brought the matter to the attention of the State Department, which promptly telegraphed that the warrant was illegal, unfounded and not to be complied with. The proceedings were, of course, stopped, and the department is now in receipt, through the Consul, of the grateful thanks of the men whose lives were saved.

REDUCTION OF ENGINEERS' WAGES.

THE QUESTION OF A STRIKE ON THE LEHIGH VALLEY ROAD TO BE DECIDED TO-DAY.

BETHLEHEM, Pa., May 26, 1877.

The announcement of a reduction in the wages of the engineers of the Lehigh Valley causes quite an excitement among those employed on the road. The company has had the matter under consideration for some time past, and, believing a strike to be imminent, such arrangements have been completed as will obviate any serious interference with the running of trains, &c., should the men leave their engines. Since the first intimation of the reduction the engineers have been holding meetings and the officers of the Locomotive Engineers' Brotherhood say the men are strongly averse to the reduction. Representing the various divisions of the road will attend a general meeting of the engineers, to be held at Pottsville to-morrow, at which it is expected that petition and remonstrance will be taken as to whether work should be stopped or not. A short time since a reduction of ten per cent was made in all the various labor departments of the road except that of the engineers.

THE MUSCOVITE DREAM.

Wresting the Golden Horn from the Turk to Present It to Europe.

RUSSIA'S CELESTIAL AMBITION.

England's Interests in the East To Be Respected.

THE FLOWERY KINGDOM IN DANGER.

Interesting Interview with a Russian Diplomatist by a Herald Correspondent.

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

St. Petersburg, May 26, 1877.

Your correspondent had an interview recently with a prominent Russian diplomat, whose name, for certain cogent reasons, I am not at liberty to disclose. It will be seen that the Russian official makes some startling assertions:—

RUSSIA'S INTENTIONS AND AIMS.

Upon my asking whether Russia's intentions were really as disinterested as she had announced in her several circular notes addressed to the Powers of Europe, I was told that Russia intended to redeem her pledge as far as the aggrandizement of territory went, but that, should she prove victorious, there was no reason to doubt that she would insist upon the independence of the different tributary States—namely, Bulgaria, Herzegovina, Roumania, Servia and Bosnia, and she would guarantee these provinces their independence, no matter against what Power. In other words, she would form a defensive and offensive alliance with these liberated territories.

THE FATE OF CONSTANTINOPLE.

Upon my asking whether Constantinople, in the event of Russia gaining decisive victories, would be occupied by Russia, I was informed that long before an army could be brought in front of the walls of Constantinople peace would be made. The terms of peace, beside those spoken of above would perhaps include the surrender, on the part of Turkey, of a portion of her fleet, and, above all, the consummation of a treaty placing the city of Constantinople under the joint control of all the foreign Powers. Up to this time a cosmopolitan city has been frequently talked of and several theories have been brought forward for its government, but it has never been practically tried. On Constantinople, then, if my informant is correctly advised, the first attempt will be made.

TICKLING JOHN RULL.

England would be the greatest gainer by it; hence there is very little danger that she will oppose the scheme. England need never fear, continued my informant, that Russia will ever attempt to jeopardize her trade in India nor ever try to deprive her of one inch of her Indian territory. It would be, in the first place, absolutely impossible to send a sufficient force of men to defeat the English troops, aided, as they would be, by the natives. Hannibal may have crossed the Alps, but certainly no Russian general with his army will ever cross the Himalaya Mountains. And even could this difficult undertaking be accomplished, and India conquered, the force which would have to be employed to keep that country in subjugation would be so enormous that it would more than counteract the benefits derived from its acquisition, especially as the Muscovite government is not favorably looked upon by the Mohammedan population.

WHAT RUSSIA WANTS.

No, Russia has no intention of advancing into India. Her ambition, is to become the master and possessor of a part of the Celestial Empire. Toward this end all her intruders into Asia are directed. China, with all its resources as yet untouched, with its peaceful but industrious population, with its mineral resources, with its highly appreciated manufactures, all these offer far more temptation to Russia than the almost exhausted India. And how easy of access to Russia. With Turkestan as her vassal or tributary State she can transport her troops to whatever part of the frontier of the Chinese Empire may be most advantageous, and no power can prevent her from helping herself to as much territory as she desires. With Constantinople a free or national port, and China intersected by railroads, Russia may control a vast amount of commerce.

AN SIN TO BE GORBLER UP.

It is true that there is a large population of Mohammedans in China; that the country is so thickly populated that it can put into the field an almost unlimited army, but it must be taken into consideration that the Chinese are not a warlike people; that they are very poorly armed and have no leaders or generals. All of these facts were demonstrated in 1869 in the war of Formosa, and still later in the Korean campaign. Nor would it be the interest of England to oppose Russian advance into China, for naturally a great amount of trade would find its way to her Indian seaports, and though Russia may be a more dangerous neighbor than China; still she would certainly prove herself a more profitable one.

THE MUSCOVITE PLAN.

In my opinion, therefore, Russia, in making war upon Turkey, has a two-fold object. First, by her advance into Asia to gain the right of way and passage to China, and second, by her operations in Europe to obtain the freedom of the Pan Slavonic States and make Constantinople a free and cosmopolitan port. She thus redeems her word in not aggrandizing herself, but at the same time paves the way toward securing immense benefit. For in China everything can be found that is needed in Europe, and her teas, wool, rice and cotton, not to speak of her minerals, can be exported in such large quantities and in such an easy manner by railroads, that it will revolutionize the commerce of the world.

A SHORT WAR.

I do not think that this war will be of very long

duration. Turkey has already recognized her own weakness, and as soon as Russia has concentrated sufficient troops on the Danube to be sure of success in an advance I have no doubt that after one or two decisive victories peace will be made on the basis which I have already mentioned. Turkey has been too dilatory in attacking Russia on the northern side of the Danube before a sufficient force could have been collected. It is now too late, and the final result may be safely anticipated.

MUSICAL AND DRAMATIC NOTES.

Count Pierre Loredan will give his first piano concert in this country at Steinway Hall to-morrow afternoon.

Mr. James Baross, for many years the stage director of the old Wood's Museum, has opened a dramatic agency in this city.

"Smile" will be played at the Union Square Theatre until the end of the regular season, which will probably take place on June 9.

Mr. Howard, president of the Mendelssohn Club, of this city, has been tendered a testimonial concert, which will take place on Thursday evening next, at Chickering Hall.

The Aquarium is especially attractive in summer, and is a kind of watering place where one can see all kinds of fishes bathing in the cool element. The display is varied and large.

"Henry V." will be brought out at Booth's on Tuesday night, when Mr. George Rigold will assume the part in which he made his greatest success. On Thursday he will take a benefit.

A complimentary benefit to Mr. Thomas B. Meagher will be given at the Lyceum Theatre next Thursday evening by Mr. Charles F. Coghlan, H. W. Montague, Miss May Gallagher and Miss Chen.

"The Dancheffs" has made an immense success at the Boston Theatre, where it is played by the Union Square company. Indeed both the play and the performance seem to be received with more enthusiasm in Boston than they were in New York.

This is the farewell week of Mr. Heller at the Wonder Theatre. The pleasure of the entertainment will be added by the early departure of this almost unrivaled magician and excellent comedian. Mr. Heller will probably go to California this summer.

On Monday afternoon a benefit will be given to the Cuban sufferers at Booth's Theatre, at which "A Happy Pair" will be played, with Mr. H. J. Montague, Miss Ada Dyas and the Amaranth Club will appear. Mr. Montague has not acted in this city for several months.

The season at Wallack's will terminate in three weeks, and until then "Roseland," which has been one of the most popular dramas since "The Shaughraun," will, no doubt, keep the stage. It owes much of its success to the acting of Mr. Wallack and the company and to the beautiful scenery.

The Philharmonic Society, at a private meeting Friday afternoon, elected Theodore Thomas musical director in place of Dr. Danrosch. In case Mr. Thomas should decline, the society will dispense with the concerts the coming season and engage some European celebrity as director. The precise reasons for the sudden action of the society are not known.

Gilmore's Garden was again thronged last night. The programme was new, fresh and attractive. To-night the programme will also be new and adapted to the sacred character of the day. People who love the music that appeals to the heart and can be carried away as a memory will have no occasion to regret a visit to Gilmore. He is popularizing the eloquence of wind.

Mr. Stephen Fiske will receive a benefit at the Fifth Avenue Theatre on Saturday evening, when a programme of unusual attraction will be given. Miss Neilson will appear in "Twelfth Night," and Mr. Rigold in "Henry V."

The earnest and successful efforts of Mr. Fiske to please the public during the season will, no doubt, be rewarded by a crowded house.

"Vesta" will be brought out at the Fifth Avenue Theatre on Monday night, with entirely new scenery and a cast which not only includes the best members of the company, but presents Miss Jeffery-Lewis, after an absence of months, and Mr. F. B. Ward for the first time on this stage. Miss Fanny Davenport will act the heroine. "Vesta" will be performed for one week only.

Mr. George Worcester, the very popular tenor of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, will be the recipient of a complimentary concert at Plymouth Church on Monday evening, when the following artists will appear: Madame Clementine Lasar, soprano; Mrs. J. W. Hutchison, contralto; Mr. Worcester, Herr Blum, baritone; Mr. J. G. Lombard, basso; Mr. Herman O. C. Kortebeur, pianist; and Mr. Henry E. Brown, organist. The programme embraces selections from Verdi, Beethoven, Haydn, Ysa Ysa, Gounod, and other favorite composers, and includes Brahms's "Love Song Waltz," in which all the performers have solos or concerted pieces.

Never had needy maid more gallant defenders and assistants than the coteries of historians who have volunteered in aid of the Church of St. Agnes, and its worthy and zealous pastor, Father MacDowell. One half the programme they offer to render on Tuesday night at the Academy of Music would satisfy the most fastidious star and draw a crowded house. Its attractions when taken in connection with the worth of the cause in which it is given will undoubtedly insure a success worthy the efforts and hopes of all concerned. Mr. and Mrs. Florence will appear in the fourth act of the "Mighty Dollar." Mr. Sothen will play Sam, Dunderberg's brother, and read his original telegram, with all its postscripts; Mr. W. R. Floyd, of the Globe Theatre, Boston, will assist the Florences; Mr. Markhus will read Longfellow's "Hanging of the Crane;" the inimitable MacAndrews will give a few Ethiopian sketches; Miss Bjoer Heron will appear in "Nan, the Good for Nothing," and Mr. Tinsington, of the Union Square, will lead the orchestra.

A CARD FROM MISS ADA DYAS.

To the Editor of the Herald:—

Will you kindly allow me space in your paper to say that the reports which have been industriously circulated and printed to the effect that I intend returning to England the coming summer are entirely false, and are calculated to be of great injury to me, inasmuch as they will give managers and others the impression that I am about to leave the American stage, when, in fact, I have no such intention. Respectfully,

ADA DYAS, Wallack's Theatre.

BUTLER "GOING WEST."

MASSACHUSETTS GROWN TOO SMALL—SHEEP RAISING ON A SEVENTY THOUSAND ACRE FARM—FARMING BETTER THAN LAW—BEN'S MOTIVES.

[FROM OUR REGULAR CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, May 26, 1877.

General Butler always has a surprise of some kind in store for the public, and now he is "going West." It is said that he is to be introduced to Colorado, to sheep farm and come to Congress as Senator of the Centennial State. It will be remembered that the Supreme Court recently awarded to Colonel Craig the patent of title of an extensive tract of land in Colorado, which had long been in dispute. The story runs that General Butler has purchased from Colonel Craig 75,000 acres of this estate, and that as soon as he can arrange some of his private business he intends to settle upon it and engage in cattle raising.

Forney's Chronicle explains his motives in the following editorial:—"The fact is New England is politically worn out, or rather the appreciation of its people, and in consequence her limits are getting very narrow and contracted. What Butler wants is room and fresh air, and Colorado is just the place to find these two essentials to human happiness. The chances of politics are seventy-five per cent better there than in Massachusetts, and this is a weighty consideration to a man who has been criticized and newpaper men as the devil drove him." The healthy recreation of cattle raising is another inducement, and will go a great way toward tempering the humor of the old man for the new honors that are sure to welcome such as he. Two years' residence in Colorado destroys all the identity of a carpet-bagger, and entitles a man to all the privileges and rights of the manner born.

Little Abner, the young man, and his wife, thrown into a new country with money enough to become a large land owner, coupled with his extraordinary ability and perseverance, there is no telling the effect of the transformation his presence will produce both in the substantial wealth and politics of the State. The people would soon see this and be quick to recognize it by conferring upon him the highest honors a citizen can give. We, therefore, predict that General Butler will be one of the next New United States Senators from Colorado, and the moment he is the State will become one of the most prominent in the Union."

FRANCE'S DANGER.

Increasing Dissatisfaction with the New Ministry.

WILL DISSOLUTION BE DECREED?

Germany's Reasons for Distrust—Bismarck's Opinion.

"SWINGING ROUND THE CIRCLE."

[BY CABLE TO THE HERALD.]

HERALD BUREAU, 61 AVENUE DE L'OPERA, PARIS, May 26, 1877.

As time wears on the folly and madness of MacMahon's *coup d'etat* become more and more apparent. Abroad it is met by a universal condemnation which has certainly startled the Court clique who projected it and the Marshal who did the unpopular part of the work for them. Germany is bitterly antagonistic to the new state of things, for it raises the hopes of the German ultramontanes, whose long persecution had failed of its object and who now hail the change in France as an omen of more positive triumph in the future. Besides this the German government knows that the tradition of despotic rule in France (and thither the Marshalate is tending in spite, probably, of the President's belief to the contrary) has been to put an end to domestic ferment by the risks of a foreign war. Hence the haste with which regiment after regiment is hurried to the western frontier. Germany will be the real arbiter in the Russo-Turkish war, and to preserve that character she must keep France quiet. The Smon Ministry had announced its neutral intentions, and they had been accepted in good faith; but the De Broglie Cabinet's assurance must be taken with a large allowance of salt. In Italy the clerical influence which has brought about the change is disgusting to the adherents of Victor Emmanuel. In England the change meets with general condemnation, but it is questionable if the Beaconsfield Cabinet is altogether displeased.

REMARKS ON THE SITUATION.

The Herald correspondent at Berlin telegraphs that Prince Bismarck, during his recent short visit to that city, had an interview with the French Chargé d'Affaires, in which he repeatedly expressed his great disapprobation of the change of Cabinet. The continuation of Duc Decazes in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs somewhat appeased the irritation of the great ex-Chancellor, who said that no interference need be expected so long as the French government refrains from promoting ultra-montane interests; otherwise the most serious complications might be feared.

The Berlin ministerialist *Post* continues to comment on the French crisis and says France ruled by the Vatican is the centre of a Papal system which threatens the world's peace and is preparing a crusade against Germany, for there can be no doubt that a disturbance of peace is inevitable should France continue the course she has now taken.

A BELLETTANT POSSIBILITY.

In a conversation with an Orleansist who supports the new Ministry the following was laid down with a smile:—

"We shall not assume the rôle of prophecy, or even hint that this eventuality is likely to arise or is contemplated by any one with power to enforce even a portion of it; but see, now. In the imperial coalition Austria is the weak spot. England's line to interfere in the war is drawn somewhere this side of 'too late.' She interferes. Germany cries 'Halt!' more England cannot. Austria, led on by British gold and promises, and driven by Hungarian hatred of Russia and Austrian dislike of the conqueror of Sadova, throws herself on the side of England and Turkey. Germany advances on Austria helped, it is true, by Italy. Is not this France's opportunity? It would then stand: Germany, Russia and Italy against England, France, Austria and Turkey."

I do not credit my amiable friend with any government influence or put much trust in his calculations, but it shows what is floating on the surface in certain quiet pools of politics.

THE MINISTRY'S HARD HOME ROAD.

If foreign opinion is discouraging to the Ministry the outlook at home is the very reverse of reassuring. The prudence and self-control of the republicans have destroyed the confidence of the faction in power. It is already evident that all this telling on the members of the Senate, so that the cooperation of that body in the scheme of dissolution is exceedingly doubtful. In illustration of this I may relate a conversation which a friend of mine overheard at Ernest Picard's funeral. The Duc d'Audret-Pasquier was asked how he thought the Senate would act.

"We shall decree dissolution, of course," was the reply. "There is no choice between that and the Marshal's resignation."

"You are mistaken, Duke," rejoined a Senator of the Right Centre, who was present. "The choice is between civil war and the Marshal's resignation, and the Senate will prefer the latter."

This sentiment is becoming daily more and more evident, and the Ministers are becoming nervous as to results. They think that by a wholesale removal of prefects and sub-prefects they may have a chance of altering the Lower Chamber in case dissolution is agreed upon, but they might just as well attempt to set back the ocean tide. Even those partisans who have been put into the vacated places are so convinced of the futility of trying to arrest the popular current that they will indubitably prove false to their employers, and try to curry favor with the coming men by the lukewarmness of their efforts.

PRESS PERSECUTION BEGUN.

Meanwhile the weakness of the Cabinet is made deplorably manifest by the repressive measures it is putting in force. The press telegrams of foreign correspondents are overhauled and withheld at the Ministry of the Interior, and it is announced in the journals to-day that stringent measures will be adopted toward the correspondents themselves. The prosecutions of the Paris journals are beginning, several of the radical sheets having already felt the lash, and even the comic papers are punished. *Le Libre Penseur* was seized yesterday for a capital caricature by Gill. In the background, on the left, is seen a cabmanfully dragged along by two old hacks; in the foreground, on the right, stands Napoleon III, attired as a cab driver,

brandishing a long whip. He asks Thiers, who is dressed as a private coachman, where the *force* which represents the government of the 18th May, is going. Thiers replies, "à la fourrière"—the pound or place where stray horses and dogs are consigned. "Hue, donc, Polignac!" (Gill up, Polignac) shout the political cabbies in chorus. The sting of the caricature is sharp, but it describes the situation exactly.

L'Unité denies the expulsion of Don Carlos by the government, and says he has gone home to see his sick mother. It is a pity the government is not left the credit of the expulsion.

SWINGING ROUND THE CIRCLE.

Marshal MacMahon commences his political tour on Saturday next. He attends on that day the regional concours at Compiègne. The Cabinet anticipates much from these quasi-royal progresses. Meanwhile Court and Cabinet exercise their seductions in dinners, concerts and daily receptions. The republicans look on amused, and in obedience to Jules Grévy's injunction at the last sitting of the Chamber, await the result with confidence.